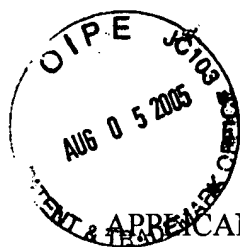


IFW

P-3976-1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: ALEXANDER M.L. KELLER

FOR: INJECTION MOLDED ARTIFICIAL FINGERNAILS AND
PACKAGING THEREOF

SERIAL NO.: 10/635,129

FILED: August 7, 2003

EXAMINER: John J. Wilson, Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3732

CLARIFICATION

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Clarification is respectfully requested of the Office Action mailed 07/25/2005.

It is assumed that it is the Examiner's position that LaJoie et al does not disclose:

The step of putting the artificial fingernails in a rectangular container which has a bottom delineated into ten compartments in two parallel rows of five compartments in each row, detaching the work-in-process artificial fingernails from the sprue of the tree from the sprue center location of the largest size, from the sprue end locations of the smallest size and from the remaining sprue locations between the center and end locations of the work-in-process artificial fingernails; and the container further having a hinged lid with a chart imprinted with numerical size designations correlated in each row to the compartment of the bottom.

Stated somewhat differently, it is assumed that it is the Examiner's position that LaJoie et al. only discloses claim Subset C and not Subsets D and E. As to Subsets D and E, it is the Examiner's position that Park discloses Subset D and Prussen discloses Subset E.

This clarification is requested since the basis for rejection appears to be a duplicate of the basis for rejection of Office Action 05/16/2005.

Even more to the point, it is assumed that the "new grounds" is not really prior patents not known to the Examiner at the time of the Office Action of 05/16/2005, but applicant's amending of Claim 1 in response to the known prior patents cited in the Office Action of 05/16/2005.

Respectfully,

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Dated: August 2, 2005